



State of Illinois

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Mary A. Gade, Director

2200 Churchill Road, Springfield, IL 62794-9276

STATUS REPORT JULY 1996

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



298487

GROUNDWATER REMEDY SOUTHEAST ROCKFORD GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION SUPERFUND PROJECT

Last October, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) signed a Record of Decision for a groundwater remedy for the Southeast Rockford Groundwater Contamination Superfund project. The Record of Decision authorized the following actions:

- * Connection of eligible southeast Rockford homes and businesses to the Rockford Public Water Supply including water mains down the street and service connections from the street to the house;
- * Construction of water mains without service connections in specified adjacent areas;
- * Monitoring of contaminated groundwater movement in the specified adjacent areas and, if necessary, connection of additional eligible homes to the Rockford Public Water Supply; and
- * Continued treatment of Municipal Well #35 with a granulated activated carbon treatment system.

When will this work begin? Work will begin either late this year or next summer. Originally, the IEPA and USEPA had planned to begin construction in late 1996. Decisions on the starting date now depend on the source of funding.

Why would the source of funding affect the starting date? The City of Rockford has proposed to assume the groundwater remedy construction costs plus certain other past and future project costs. The USEPA, the IEPA, and the U.S. Department of Justice (USDOJ) have entered into negotiations with the City regarding its proposal. If the negotiating parties quickly reach an agreement, construction of water mains could begin late this year. If negotiations fail, the USEPA and IEPA will fund the connections with federal and state dollars, and work will begin next summer.

If I connect to the Rockford Public Water Supply at my own expense will my costs be reimbursed? No. There is no provision in the Superfund law allowing for reimbursement of money already spent by private parties.

What are the criteria for Rockford Public Water Supply connection under this program?

Homes and businesses are eligible for public water supply connection under this program if, within the next 70 years, they are located in areas predicted to have five parts per billion or more of two specific volatile organic compounds. Homes and businesses in a buffer zone will also be connected. See map. Connection would include water mains down the streets and service connections from the street to the house. In the past, the City of Rockford has also waived the hookup fee, so the only cost to the property owners should be the monthly water bill and, if necessary, interior plumbing modifications required to accommodate public water supply pressure. In addition, water mains without service connections would be supplied to select areas near the hookup area. See map.

For more information contact:

Virginia Wood
Community Relations Coordinator
IEPA
2200 Churchill Road
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276
217/785-1269

Paul Takacs
Project Manager
IEPA
2200 Churchill Road
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276
217/785-3912

PUBLIC WATER CONNECTIONS UNDER SUPERFUND PROGRAM

